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DOCUMENTS

1. Orders of Mercer, Sullivan and Stirling, 1776.

By the kindness of Dr. N. P. Dandridge, of Cincinnati, the REVIEW is enabled to print extracts from a manuscript Revolutionary orderly-book in his possession. The volume is an ordinary thick blank-book, 8 inches by 6. About half of it was used as an orderly-book. The remainder was subsequently used for miscellaneous accounts, extending through the remainder of the century, and evidently kept first in New Jersey and afterward in Ohio. Internal evidence shows the book to have belonged originally to some one in Col. Samuel Miles's Pennsylvania Provincial Rifle Regiment. It begins with regimental orders of that body, extending in time from May 16, 1776, to August 13. Up to the latter part of July these alone are given, and the regiment may be traced from Marcus Hook (May 16), through Philadelphia (July 5), Allentown (July 7), Brunswick (July 9), Amboy (July 11-17), and Elizabeth (July 18, 19) to Amboy. Before the close of July brigade orders and general orders begin to be intermixed, and the regimental orders become less frequent. From August 12 to August 23, at which date the military portion of the book ends, one finds interspersed an interesting series of the general orders of Washington, preparatory to the campaign around New York and the battle of Long Island. But these have already been printed in *Force's Archives*. We select for present publication a series of orders intermediate in grade between these general orders of the commander-in-chief and the regimental orders of Col. Miles. We present, in chronological order, with unimportant omissions, first, the general orders of Gen. Hugh Mercer, commanding the Flying Camp, of which, during these dates (July 29-August 9) Miles's regiment was a part. By Washington's orders of August 12 the Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment was made a part of Stirling's brigade, and the latter a part of Sullivan's division. The remaining orders here printed are therefore divisional orders of Sullivan (August 13, 14) and brigade orders of Stirling (August 13-22). The documents are too early in date to have much direct value with reference to the battle of Long Island (Howe landed on August 22), and do not cast strong light on any serious fighting. But it is thought that they have their value as showing the state of the American army during these weeks, and the efforts made to prepare it for the approaching conflict.

The accounts which fill the portion of the book not used for military purposes indicate that it was, from 1784 on, the property of Jesse Hunt, who migrated from New Jersey to Cincinnati in 1788. From him it passed to his son-in-law Nathaniel Green Pendleton, son of Nathaniel Pendleton of New York, Hamilton's second in the duel with Burr. N. G. Pendleton was the grandfather of Dr. Dandrige. Since ten sergeants in Miles's regiment were reported missing after the battle of August 27, 1776 (*Penn. Archives*, 2d ser., X. 204-232), it is easy to see why the orders in the book cease with August 23. But as no sergeant or commissioned officer in the regiment was named Hunt, it is not known how the book came into the possession of a New Jersey family of that name.

Head Quarters Perth Amboy 29th July 1776.

Orders issued by the Honble Hugh Mercer Esq^r Commanding Officer of the Flying Camp

Parole—York—Countersign

Whereas the Honble. Continental Congress have been pleased to Appoint Col^o Sam^l Griffin to be Adjutant General to the Flying Camp, All Orders Issued by the Commanding Officer through him Either written or Verbal are to be Strictly Attended to and punctually Obey'd. Brigade Majors to Attend at the Adjutant Gen^{ls} Office between the Hours of 10 in the forenoon and 1 in the Afternoon. All returns to be made to the Adjutant General.

The Commanding Officers of the Battalions are to meet at Gen^l Roberdeau's Quarters at 11 o Clock this forenoon to report to the Commander in Chief the State of the Provisions and whether they are Served out Regularly. The Quarter Master and Q^r M^r Serg^t to receive the provision from the Commissary and to distribute them. Two men from each full Company and one Man from Each Company not Exceeding forty in Number to be Appointed Camp colour men whose particular Duty it must be to Attend the Q^r M^r and Q^r M^{ls} Serj^s to Sweep the Streets of their Respective Encampments, to fill up Old Necessary houses and make new ones, all Offall and whatever else may tend to Injure the Health of the Troops. The Quarter Masters to be Answerable to their Commanding Officers for a Strict observance of this Order. For the future the Adjutant Gen^l will send the Parole and Countersign under a Sealed Cover by the Orderly Adjutant at Head Quarters to the Majors of Brigade they at retreat Beating are to deliver the Parole and Countersign to the Field officer of the day who is to deliver them to the Officers of Guards and to the Adju^{ls} who are to Communicate them to their Respective Guards. A Fatigue Party Consisting of one Serjeant and 12 Privates to Attend the Q^r M^r General till further Orders.

Field Officer for to Morrow Col^o Miles.

d^o to Visit the Posts at South Amboy—

Head Q^{rs} Perth Amboy July 30th 1776

Parole—Alexandria—Countersign

The Commanding Officer of Each Regiment to Send in an Exact List of all their Officers down to the Noncommissioned Officers with their Respective Ranks to the deputy Adjutant General tomorrow morning at 10 oClock. The Generall Desires and Orders a full and Compleat return of Each Reg^t to be made by the Col^o or Commanding Officer to the Deputy Adjutant General Every Saturday morning between the Hours of 10 and 11 oClock at his office in Order that Copies may be transmitted Regularly Every Week to the Congress and Commander in Chief. No return will be received that is not Signed by the Col^o or Commanding Officer of the Regiments or Corps Specified by the Return and it is Expected that the Commanding Officers of Regiments will not Receive any Returns from their Adjutants unless he at the Same time presents him with a Particular return of each Company of the Regiment Signed by their Respective Captains. Gasper Sizler, John Pendleton and Adam Hoffman of Cap^t Millars Company and Col^o M^e Keans Battalion Penns^a Militia are to be employed as armourers and of Course Excused from all Duty until further Orders their Rations to be drawn by the director of the Armoury. The Col^o or Commanding Officer of Each Regiment to be answerable to the Generall for any Neglect of Orders.

It has been repeatedly in Orders that no Officer or Soldier off Duty is to discharge his piece without leave from the Commanding Officer. The General Expresses his Surprise that those Orders are not attended to, it is the Duty of every Officer to See that all Orders are Obedied. The Commanding Officers of Battalions will for the future be answerable for deficiency in the Ammunition Served out to the Troops under their Command, and it is Directed that Every Soldier who fires of his piece without Orders Shall be immidiately Confined and tryed by a Court Martial.

Head Quarters 31st of July 1776

Parole—Richmond—Countersign

Field Officer for to Morrow Col^o Bayard.

A General Court Martial to Sit to Morrow morning at 11 oClock in M^r Hicks long room for the tryal of Jacob Babe and Jo^s Crimer both of the 4 Battalion Penn^a Militia for Desertion

President Col^o M^e Kean—

Col^o Brodhead
Cap^t Brown } 1 B R
Long }
Wade } 2 B M.

Perviance 4 B. M.

Col^o Clymer
Lieu^t Moore
Finley | 1 B R
White }
Bright } 2 B M
Mattock 5 B. M.

Col^o Miles, Col^o Atlee, Col^o Bayard Col^o Brodhead Col^o Clymer, Major Bird and D^r Shippen are requested to meet at Commissary Dunhams Stores At 11 oClock this Morning to inspect in to the State of

Provisions particularly the Flour and to Condemn Such as they may think unfitt for use.

The Majors of Brigade are to furnish the Col^{rs} or Commanding Officers of Regiments with a Copy of the Continental Establishments of Rations for the Troops and the Commanding Officers of Regiments or Corps are to have them read at least once a Week to the Soldiers in Order that Such Articles of the Rations as Cannot be procured or Such as the Soldiers do not Choose to draw may be paid for in Money.

General Orders Head Quarters August 1st 1776

Parole—Burlington—Countersign Trenton

Such of the Pennsylvania Associators as did not draw their Rations from Philadelphia to Trenton are to make out their Acc^{ts} properly Certified by their Officers Aggreable to which they will receive the Money from Col^o Biddle Dep^y Q^r Master General

Field Officer for to Morrow Col^o Bayard

The General is Very Sorry he is under the Necessity of Reminding the Pennsylvania Associators of the terms on which they Agreed to Serve here Namely to remain on Duty untill a Sufficient number of troops had Joined to form the Flying Camp and While on Duty to Conform to the Regulations of the Continental troops. Such of the Noncommissioned Officers or Soldiers as Shall discover a Contrary disposition will Subject themselves to punishment and if any Shall presume to quit their Posts under pretence of the limitted time For their service being Expired they will be treated in every Respect as deserters from the Continental Army. Captain Smiths Company of Colonel Bayards Battalion of Pennsylvania Militia to Cross the river to South Amboy this Evening or tomorrow morning and to put themselves under the direction of Major Prior Commanding Officer of that Post All passes Signed by Col^o Biddle Dep^y Q^r Master General are to be deemed sufficient.

Head Quarters Amboy August the 2^d 1776.

Parole—Newark. Countersign

Field Officer for to Morrow L^t Col^o Brodhead A serjeant and 12 men to mount Guard to morrow for the security of the Craft. The 3 Companies for the flying camp Commanded by Capt. Arnold Capt. Jaynes and Capt. Douglass are to make their Returns to Major Bird Every afternoon at 4 oClock and to do duty as part of that Corps till further Orders.

S. GRIFFIN D. A. G.

Head Quarters Amboy August the 3^d 1776

Parole—Lancaster—Countersign—Reading.

Field Officer for to Morrow Lieut. Col^o Perry.

The Colonel or Commanding Officer of Each Reg^t is requested to fix upon some place Convenient to build a Oven for the use of his Regi^t any Assistance he may want will be Offered him by the Quarter Master Gen-

eral this Order to be Complied with as soon as possible. M^r Lodwick undertakes to Carry on the Baking Buisness for the advantage of the Army he is to have what Assistance he thinks Necessary of Bakers and Labourers from the different Regi^{ts} A party for fatigue to be ready on monday morning of one Hundred men properly Offered.

Head Quarters Amboy 4th of August 1776

Parole—Bergen—Countersign—Princetown

Field officer for to-morrow Lieu^t Col^o Dean

The General beholds with Astonishment the sloth and inactivity of some of the Adjutants in parading their men on the morning parade by which means they keep those Officers that are punctual in their duty one or two hours in the hot Sun, he once more desires and orders each Adjutant with his proportion of men to be on the parade precisely at 9 o'clock every morning on pain of incurring the Generals displeasure. At a Court Martial of which Colonel Bayard was President for the trial of Jacob Bebe, Joseph Criner, Fedrick Pobst, George Hoffner, and Philip Freese for desertion the Prisoners were found Guilty and Condemned to remain in the main Guard three days on Bread and Water and then to be reprimanded by the Colonels at the head of their Respective Regi^{ts}.

The General Approves of the Sentence but to Convince the Soldiers that he means to punish them as seldom as possible without Absolute Necessity he thinks proper to remit the first part of the Sentence and Orders the latter part to take place this afternoon at 6 oClock. The Colonels taking Care to Send proper Officers for the Prisoners.

A General Court Martial to sit to-morrow morning in Hicks's long room at 9 oClock.

COL. M^c KEAN, *President*.

Head Quarters Amboy August the 5th 1776

Parole—Hancock—Countersign

Field Officer for to-Morrow Major Williams

As the Regiments are not yet furnished with Ovens the Commissary will Supply a pound of flour or a pound of good Biscuit for a few days in Lieu of a Ration of bread until the Ovens are built. In the meantime the Soft bread supplied to be equally distributed this Order to punctually Communicated to the respective Corps. Whereas the Reverend of new York and Philadelphia have appointed thursday Next to be Observed as a day of Humiliation fasting and praying to Almighty God on acc^t of the Oppression and distress of the good people of America—

The General requests and desires that all Officers and Soldiers under their Command (except those on duty) of that persuasion may pay Attention to the Said Appointment. The Captain of the main Guard to take Care that the Guard house is swept every morning before he is relieved.

Head Quarters Amboy August the 6th 1776

Parole—Bristol—Countersign—

Field Officer for to Morrow Major Bird

The General thinks it Necessary to inform the Pennsylvania Associators that there are a Great Number of Troops for the flying Camp now on their way to this place and as soon as a sufficient number to form the said camp Shall arrive the Associators shall immediately be dismissed and it is hoped no Associator will be so lost to all sense of honour and love for his Country as to think of returning home untill those Troops shall arrive.

Head Quarters August the 7th 1776

Parole—Kingsbridge—Countersign

Field Officer for to Morrow Major Pobst. the long Rolls to beat immediately after the Ravalie every morning when the Troops are to turn out to Exercise and the fatigue parties go to Work.

M^r Carpenter Weston is Appointed the Commissary General to Issue provision to the Troops. he will furnish the Army so as to give no Cause of Complaint that this buisness may be Carried on with the Necessary Regularity, it is again Ordered that the Q^r Master with the Q^r Master Sergeant and Camp Colour men by returns Signed by Commanding Officers of his Corps is to draw the provisions and that no other Officer or Soldier is to Interfair so as to interrupt the Commissary in the Executing of his Office. It is recommended to the Commanding Officers of Regiments to draw Rations of flower and to Contract with bakers to have it baked up by the men of their own Rations M^r Ludowick from a desire to Serve the Army has Off^d his Service and will undertake to bake for any Corps that may Choose to employ him.

for which purpose a Sufficient number of ovens will be filled up by saturday next. no commissioned officer or Soldier is to go one mile from Camp or Quarters without leave of Absence in writing from the Adjutant General.

Head Quarters Point pleasant August the 8th 1776

Parole— Countersign—

Field officer for to Morrow Major Britton

All the different Battalions are to be paraded at 5 oClock this Afternoon on their respective parades where the Commanding Officers of Each are to Attend and See that the mens arms and Accoutrements are in good Order and that Each man has his proper Quantity of Ammunition Any deficiencies to be immediately Supplied.

General Orders August the 9th 1776—

Parole Malbourough—Countersign Chatham.

Field officer for tomorrow Major Herbert.

Colonel Miles's Regiment of Pensy.^a Riflemen to march to New York as.

soon as the Can be got Ready All the Pensy^a Associators to be paraded in the front of the Encampment of the City Militia precisely at 5 oClock this Evening.

Orders for Lord Sterlings Brigade August the 13, 1776.

The Adjutants of Each Battalion are to Extract from the Orderly books of the Army as such Orders [such orders as] Ought to be regarded and observed as standing Orders and to Cause them to be dispersed to all the Officers ; but as this cannot be done immediately the Colonels will assemble All the Officers for some hours a day and Cause such parts of the Orders as are before mentioned to be Read Alloud to them. The Adjutants are to attend at the Brigade Majors Office every day at 12 o'Clock for Orders.

Each Col^o is to Send into the Same Office on thursday Morning a Return of the dates and ranks of the Commissions of all the Officers also a return of all their Arms Accoutrements and Ammunition, also an Acc^t of time Each Corps has been paid. A Guard of 1 Serg^t 1 Cor^l and 12 Men from Colonell Glovers Reg^t to relieve the Guard now at Lord Sterlings Quarters at 8 oClock to morrow morning and to mount a like Guard there at the same place Every Day until further Orders. The Rifle men of Col^o Smallwood's and one half of Col^o Miles's Corps are to go to Proper Ground tomorrow Morning by 6 oClock in Order to try and fix the sights of their Pieces the other half of the latter to do the like next Day. The Musketry of the whole Brigade to fire 3 Rounds of loose Powder and Ball at mark on thursday Morning 6 oClock. The Q^r Masters are to apply to the Adjutant General for an Order of loose Powder and Ball Sufficient for 3 Rounds of their Musketry And to attend at the Laboratory for it.

Major General Sullivans Orders August the 13th 1776.

Five Hundred men to parade tomorrow morning at 7 oClock for fatigue. Those of Lord Sterlings Brigade to parade On their Brigade parades, those of General M^o Dougalls on theirs, Brigade Majors will meet today and fix the Detail. The Col^{os} of the Corps de reserve to see that their men have their Arms in Good Order and that Each man is provided with 24 Rounds of Ammunition and their Reg^{ts} are furnished with as much more as will make up 60 Rounds p man And that ammunition Waggons are kept with their Regiments in Order to transport the Ammunition to such places as the Reg^{ts} may be Called to. An Orderly Sergeant from Each Brigade to Attend at the General Quarters from day to day. Brigade Major Levinston will send a Copy of the Orders from head Quarters to General Sullivans tomorrow as also the Parole and Countersign Brigade Major Platt the Next Day and so on in rotation and Send the Adjutants of the day to receive Orders Issued by the Commander in Chief. The Orders will be Expected Each Day precisely at 1 oClock An Adjutant is to Attend at the Generals Q^{rs} Every Day.

Major Gen^l Sullivans Orders August 14th 1776

800 men to be on fatigue tomorrow and to be on the Works by 9 oClock and work till 12 and in the Afternoon to begin at 2 and work till 7. As so much will depend upon having the work (now on hand) Compleated the Gen^l flatters Himself that Officers and men who have allready sacrificed so much of their own Ease in defence of their Country will Chearfully Assist in fortyfying those Posts which must insure to us a compleat Victory and be the Means of Saving the Liberty of Our Country.

Brigade Orders 15th August 1776

The Adj^t of the Day in Gen^l M^e Dougalls Brigade is to take his turn (Every other day) with the Adj^t of the day in Lord Sterlings Brigade to wait on Major Gen^l Sullivan with the Gen^l Orders Also to take Major Gen^l Sullivans Orders and bring to Lord Sterlings Q^{rs} He is also to furnish Gen^l Sullivan with the Countersign Every other day. The Weekly returns of Each Reg^t in Lord Sterlings Brigade to be brought to the Brigade Major's Office Every friday Evening at 6 oClock. . . .

The Q^r M^e of Each Reg^t is immediately to Apply for the proper proportion of Rum for the fatigue parties and to See distributed to the men on fatigue by 5 oClock this Afternoon.

Lord Sterlings Brigade Orders August 16th 1776

A Main Guard of the Brigade consisting of 1 Cap. 2 Subs. 2 Serg^{ts} 2 Corp^s 1 drum and 50 Privates are to mount Every day at 8 oClock in the field on the North Side of Col^o Attlees Reg^t Each Corps is at the same time to mount a Guard of 1 Sub. 1 Serg^t 1 Corp^s 1 Drum and 24 Privates and at 6 oClock in the even^g a Picquet Guard of 1 Cap. 2 Subs. 2 Serg^{ts} 2 Corp^s 1 Drum and fifty men on the Regimental parade of each Reg^t who are to lay on their Arms on their tents and to be ready to turn out at a Moments Warning The whole are to have their Arms and Ammunition in Compleat Order and to be ready to turn out at a moments warning. The whole are to have their Arms and Ammunition in Compleat Order and to be ready to turn out and form on the Shortest notice and at daylight Every morning each Reg^t is to be under Arms on its own parade unless prevented by bad weather in which Case they are to remain in their Tents and take Especial Care to keep their Arms dry and in good Order. A Field Officer is at Night To Visit all the Guards of the Brigade. The Q^r Guards of Each is to Supply Centinels to the works Nearest to them in Order to prevent any dammage being done to them and to protect the Tools and Arms which may be lodged in them. As Cleanliness must at all times greatly Contribute to the Health of the Troops but more Especially at this warm Season of the Year The Officers are requested in every instance to encourage the Practice of it among the men and in order the better to keep the Air of the Camp sweet and wholesome the following Regu^{ns} are to be observed.

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. . . . The Commanding Officers of the Reg^{ts} are enjoined to See these Regulations Strictly Observed and immediately to Cause any Neglect or disobedience to these Orders to be punished by a Regimental Court Martial. They are also enjoined to use their best endeavours to encourage every Species of Cleanliness in the Officers and Soldiers in their Respective Corps and to recommend it to them all to avoid eating green unripe fruit of any kind as it [is] undoubtedly one of the Causes of the disorders now most prevalent in Camp.

Brigade After Orders [August 19].

Cap. Steels Company of Volunteers at present encamped with Col^o Lutz's Corps is Ordered to Join Major Hays Battalion. As the Adj^{ts} of the Reg^{ts} must Necessarily be employed The Col^{os} or Commanding Officers of Each Corps will send a good Clerk to the Brigade Majors Office by 6 oClock every morning in Order to Copy off the Gen^l and Brigade Orders for a Month past. These Clerks are to Continue on that duty untill noon wich Orders are to be read to the Officer in the Afternoon. Notwithstanding this Order the Adj^{ts} of Each Corps are to Attend for Orders of the Day as usual.

Lord Sterlings Brigade Orders August the 22

The Commanding Officer of every Reg^t will immediately cause the Ammunition to be examined and if any of it be damaged it is to be separated from the rest on [an] Acc^t of it to be taken and ready to be exchanged with the Commissary of military Stores for what is good the arms are to be in as good order as possible ; the Reg^{ts} are all to be under Arms on the Grand parade it the Order communicated to the Col^o precisely at 10 oClock this Morning where they will Receive farther orders.

2. *Notes of Major William Pierce on the Federal Convention of 1787.*

New materials relating to the Convention of 1787 will always, it may be presumed, be interesting to the readers of this REVIEW. The materials which follow are derived from the papers of Major William Pierce, a member from Georgia. Mr. C. E. Jackson, of Middletown, Conn., a grandson of Pierce's widow by her second marriage, kindly offered to the REVIEW a manuscript containing the pieces numbered II., III. and IV. in the following series. A passage in Madison's *Writings*, to which the attention of the managing editor was called by Professor Edward G. Bourne, seemed to refer to these notes. Mr. J. K. Tefft, of Savannah, the noted collector of autographs, wrote to Madison in 1830, asking for his autograph and those of other distinguished Americans (*Calendar of the Correspondence of James Madison*, State Department, p. 670). Complying with his request, Madison in his answer asks Mr. Tefft to send him